

**Changes to systems regarding COVID management at Thurgoland CE Primary
Summary for families- September 2021**

What we are keeping?

- Pupil wellbeing and support will continue to be a priority.
- Self-isolation for anyone who tests positive. School will inform the class and any other children or staff deemed close contacts as courtesy and to encourage extra vigilance. Any non-vaccinated staff who are close contacts will have to isolate.
- Children with any symptoms of coronavirus (high temperature to touch, new continuous cough or a loss / change in sense of taste or smell) should not attend school.
- Any children who develop symptoms of coronavirus when in school will be moved to an isolation room and will be sent home.
- Staggered starts and finishes- adapted to have a smaller window so that learning can start swiftly but kept long enough to avoid large crowds/gatherings around school.
- Times are now 8.45am-3.15pm for Class R, Class 1 and Class 2, 8.55am-3.25pm for Class 3, Class 4, Class 5 and Class 6.
- Parents to drop children at the gate, unless you need to speak to the class teacher, to minimise contacts on the school grounds.
- Where possible children will enter and exit the building from their classroom doors.
- Children will still thoroughly clean their hands when they come into school, before lunchtime and at the end of the day - this can be done with soap and water or hand sanitiser.
- School meal system – most children will eat their lunch in the school hall, but some children will continue to eat lunch in their classrooms and this will be on a rota basis.
- Additional lunchtime cleaning routines around school- tables, toilets and hotspots like door handles.
- Increase ventilation in indoor spaces by keeping doors and windows open as much as possible during school open hours.
- Additional indoor clothing can be worn during the colder weeks.
- Staff working at home when not teaching (PPA).

What has been adapted?

- We will maintain our capacity to deliver high quality remote education (SEESAW) for next academic year for pupils who are isolating but are physically well e.g. asymptomatic cases.
- Playtimes will still be split in to two smaller groups of three / four year groups at a time but children can now mix within zones.
- Masks for visitors advisory in communal areas.
- Masks for contractors are advisory when indoor and compulsory around children and staff.
- Assemblies will be a blend of face-to-face and virtually (we still feel it is important to hold assemblies with all the children together and the only way to do this safely, with our small hall space, is to do this virtually).
- Staff meetings and Governor meetings a blend of face-to-face and online to suit.

What is no longer in operation?

- The bubble concept and keeping classes apart. We will still take care with unnecessary indoor mixing. Classes can mix for things like interventions as they are in smaller groups for such activities.
- Face masks for parents on the playground and staff when moving around school are no longer required but you are welcome to wear one if it helps you to feel safe.
- Close contacts will be identified via NHS Test and Trace and education settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing.
- Full classes will not be closed, unless there is an 'outbreak' as self-isolation is not required for anyone under 18 years old or staff who have been vaccinated.
- A need to clean shared resources.
- Water bottle rules. Water bottles should still be in school every day and rinsed/refilled by pupils and they are advised to be cleaned every week at home and returned. Drinking water/cups will be provided if a child forgets their water bottle.